Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 L-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 IGA-02 EB-07 OMB-01 MC-02 /064 W ------ 080291

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FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6785

SECDEF WASHDC//

INFO USCINCEUR:

DIA WASHDC//

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SECSTATE FOR NEA ARN PM SAS SECDEF FOR ISA NESA DSAA USCINCEUR FOR ECJ4/7 SAME//

E.O. 11652 GDS TAGS: MASS JO

SUBJECT: FY 1977 MILITARY SECURITY ASSISTANCE

REF: STATE 017013

IN RESPONSE TO REFTEL.

A. WILL HOST COUNTRY ACCEPT AND CONSUMMAT ECREDIT AGREEMENT AT LEVELS INDICATED IF CONGRESS APPROVES EXECUTIVE BRANCH REQUEST.

YES. PLANNING LEVELS ARE PROBABLYLOWER THAN
JORDAN ANTICIPATING THEREFORE PROPOSED LEVELS WOULD BE
UTILIZED COMPLETELY. JORDANIANS UNDERSTAND THAT
CONSUMMATION OF FMS CREDIT AGREEMENT IS CONTINGENT ON
SAUDI OR OTHER THIRD COUNTRY FINANCIAL BACKING WHICH THEY
WOULD SEEK AS SOON AS APPROPRIATE

B. MAJOR ITEMS TO BE PROCURED IN PRIORITY ORDER, AS DETERMINED BY COUNTRY TEAM BASED ON PREVOUS CONFIDENTIAL

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DISCUSSION WITH JAF: 12 COBRAS W/TOW 1100 TOW MSLS, 144 DRAGON

TRKRS 1440 DRAGON MSLS 1253 STINGER 10M88A1 TK ROCOV VEH 10 M588A1 TK RECOV VEH

C. DOES PROVISION OF CREDIT SUPPORT OF MILITARY REQUIREMENT DERIVES FROM A US APPROVED FOURCE GAOL

MILITARY REQ IS CONSISTENT WITH REPORT OF US DOD FACT FINDING MISSION TO JORDAN IN APR MAY 73. D. IS THERE ANY OTHER MILITARY JUSTIFICATION FOR CREDIT TO MAINTAIN A SMALL MOBILE FORCE CAPABLE OF DEFENDING AGAINST POTENTIAL THREAT CONTINUAL UPGRADING OF DEFENSE EQUIP IS REQUIRED. CURRENT GOJ BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS WOULD BE STRONGLY RESTRICTED SHOULD PROPOSED LEVEL OF FMSCR BE FIANCED BY CURRENT DUBGET. E. HOW DOES CRDIT POGRAM RELATE TO GRANT MATERIEL AND/OR GRANT TRAINING PROGRAM? OUR POLICY IS TO SHIFT INCREASINGLY FROM MAP GRANT TO FMS CREDIT ASSISTANCE (WITH THIRD PARTY BACKING) THE FACT OF THIERD PARTY BACKING MEANS THAT JORDAN WITH ITS FRAGILE ECONOMY AND CHRONIS BUDGET DEFICIT ACTUALLY ENJOYS GRANT AID WITH JORDAN OIL RICH NEIGHBORS RATHER THAN THE USG BEARING THE MAJOR FINAINCIAL BURDEN. WE RECOMMEND HOWEVER TO RETAIN A SIGNIFICANT ALTHOUGH DIMINISHING LEVEL OF DIRECT GRANT ASSISTANCE IN OUTYEARS IN ORDER TO STRENGTHEN OUR BILATERAL POLITICAL INFLUENCE AND AVOID TOTAL JORDANIAN RELIANCE ON ARAB AID SOURCES. F. WHAT ARE RELEVANT POLICY CONSIDEATIONS FOR PROVISION OF CREDIT AND HOW DIES IT SUPPORT US OBJECTIVES IN COUNTRY AND REGION THE SAME POLICY CONSIDERTIONS UNDERLYING OUR PROVISION OF CREDIT ASSISTANCE AS WELL ASOUR GRANT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM RELATE TO OUR SUPPORT FOR THE JORDANIAN GOVERNMENT AS A FORCE FOR PEACE AND MODERATION IN THE AREA -- POLICIES THAT SEVE US INTERESTS AND OBJECTIVES IN THE MIDEAST. JORDAN'S ABILITY TO KEEP TRANQUIL BORDERS AND TO MAINTAIN A REASONABLY INDEPENDENT AND PEACEFUL STANCE IS DIRECTLY RELATED TO ITS ABILITY TO REMAIN STRONG IN COMPARISON TO TWO OF ITS IMPORTANT NEIGHBORS--SYRIA AND IRAQ. CONFIDENTIAL.

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OUR CREDIT PROGRAM HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AS
A MEANS OF PROVIDING ADDTIONAL RESOURSES TO RESPOND
TO JORDAN'S HEAVY MILITARY REQUIREMENTS IN THE FACE
OF FAR HIGHER LEVELS OF ARMAMENTS BY ITS NEIGHBORS.
THE CREDIT PROGRAM ALSO REFLECS OUR RECOGNITION OF
US CONGRESSIONAL ATTITUDES FAVORING A DE EMPHASIS
ON THE USE OF GRANT US MILITARY ASSISTANCE
THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIRD PARTY BACKING OF FMS CREDIT

FOR JORDAN ALSO REFLECTS OUR INTEREST IN SPREADING A SHARE OF THE FINANCIAL BURDEN TO JORDAN'S OIL RICH NEIGHBORS WHO ARE PREENSTLY BEST ABLE TO PROVIDE SUCH FINANCING

SPECIFICALLY CONTINUED LEVELS OF FMS CREDIT
AT \$75 MILLION TO \$100 MILLIN (DEPENDING UPON LEVEL
OF GRANT ASSISTANCE) REPRESENT A USG ATTEMPT TO RESPONDE
PARTICALLY TO A GOJ REQUEST FOR AN INCREASE IN MILITARY
ASSISTANCE IN SEPTEMBER 1975, BASED ON A \$1.1 BILLION
LIST OF NEW MILITARY REQUIREMENTS BY THE JORDANIANS ARMED
FORCES IN THE FACE OF THE BUILD UP ARMAMENTS IN
NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES.

G. WILL CREDIT SALE AFFECT REGIONAL ARMS BALANCE OR CONTRIBUTE TO AN ARMS RACE?

JORDAN'S LEVEL OF ARMAMENTS IS SO FAR BEHIND

THAT OF ITS NEIGHBORS AND PRINCIPAL THREATS THAT THE

LEVEL OF CREDIT RECOMMENDED WOULD NOT CONTRIBUTE

SIGNIFICANTLY TO AN ARMS RACE.

H. IS THERE DEMONSTRABLE NEED FOR MILITARY CREDIT ASSISTANCE? (NOTE: ALL FMS CREDITS WHETHER DIRECT OR GUARANTEED WILL BE AT NO LESS THAN COST OF MONEY TO THE USG)

CREDIT IS PROVIDED AS A MEANS OF PROVIDING ADDITIONAL ASSISTANNCE TO JORDAN FOR PURCHASE OF US EQUIPMENT WITH JORDN'S OIL RICH NEIGHBORS BEARING THE MAJOR FINANCIAL BURDEN BY BACKING THE LOAN. CREDIT IS PROVIDED BECUSE IT IS BELIEVED THAT JORDAN OIL RICH NEIGHBORS THROUGH THE KHARTOUM AND RABAT SUBSIDIES AND THE FINANCING OF JORDAN'S AIR DEFENSE CONFIDENTIAL

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SYSTEM AND OTHER AD HOC PROJECTS ARE ALREADY
ENTENDING MANIMUM GRANT ASSITANCE AND WOULD BE UNLIKELY
TO PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL \$75 MILLIN, ALTHOUGH THEY
WOULD BE MORE AMENDABLE TO REPAYING \$75 MILLION OVER AN
8-10 YEAR PERIOD, A CONSIDERABLEY SMALLER SUM AT
NO LESS THAN COST OF MONEY TO THE USG, THERE IS NO
ELEMENT OF CONCESSIONALITY TO THE WEALTHY BACKERS OF
FRMS CREDIT FOR JORDAN. FURTHERMORE THE FMS CREDIT
WOULD ONLY REQUIRED A 10 PERCENT GUARANTEE AND HENCE
WOULD ONLY INVOLVE \$7.5 MILLION TO 10 MILLION IN NEW
OBLIGATIONS FOR THE US GOVERNMENT

I. WILL PROPOSED CREDIT CREATE PAYMENT
OBLIGATIONS WHICH WILL PLACE UNDERSIRABLE BURDEN ON
COUNTRYS FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESOURCES, PRODUCE EXCESSIVE

CLAIMS ON FUTURE DUGETS,OR OTHERWISE INTERFERE WITH ITS DEVELOPMENT

THE ECONOMIC EFFECT ON JORDAN OF THE REPAYMENT OBLIGATION WILL BE NIL, INASMUCH AS THE CREDIT WILL BE PAID BY WEALTHY THIRD COUNTRIES AS MENTIONED ABOVE. PICKERING

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